

THE
KAPPA
ALPHA

THETA

MAGAZINE

WINTER 2006-07



A Look Backward

The end of a calendar year seems to grant a certain historical perspective; perhaps that's why December is chock-full of "A look back at the year" television programs and newspaper articles. In fact, the title of this column may have led you to believe that this column was going to be of that ilk. But because Thetas tend to aspire to trend-setting rather than trend-following, this issue of *The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine* goes a step further by taking a deeper historical approach to several stories.

The Theta badges on our cover coincide with several editorial features. Historically, the Founders Day and Friendship Fund message from the Fraternity president is published in the winter issue, and this issue is no exception. Kappa Alpha Theta will be 137 years old on January 27, and our Foundation will be 46 years old in 2007. The message from Karen Albrecht Ledbetter on page 12 will be read at alumnae and college chapter celebrations across the continent, and all Thetas are encouraged to commemorate the special occasion with a gift to the Friendship Fund.

In further observance of Founders Day, we also offer some "fun badge facts" on page 25.

Certainly the founding of our Fraternity is of significance to Thetas, and it is gratifying that the State of Indiana considers it a significant event as well. In October, the Alpha Chapter at DePauw celebrated the dedication of an official historical marker on the grounds of the facility. The small house in which Theta was officially founded is long gone, and the Indiana Historical Bureau deemed the current Alpha facility the most appropriate site for the marker. The story of the efforts that led to the granting and dedication of only the third historical marker in Putnam County begins on page 14.

In 1881, only 11 years after Theta's beginning, Kappa Chapter was founded at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kan. At that time, it was the westernmost Theta chapter. In July, more than 500 members of the chapter convened for an anniversary reunion. The story of the gathering may be

found on page 24.

Before you begin worrying that this issue is completely mired in the past, you may want to turn to pages 16, 20, and 31, on which we present—respectively—an article about an Internet movement that is transcending the world of cyberspace, a profile of a Theta engineer who works in aerospace guidance navigation, and an account of the installation of our newest college chapter.

Because the end of one calendar year is also the beginning of another, we wish you a very happy new year, and—as always—we hope you enjoy this issue. Loyally,

Liz Appel Rinck

Liz Appel Rinck, Editor
I/Butler

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP			
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Director of Communications/Editor	Elizabeth Appel Rinck
Art Director	Maureen Fahey Bowers
Associate Editor	Stephanie Hilgedag Mansell
Editorial Assistant	Emily Whalen
Grand Council	
Fraternity President	Karen Albrecht Ledbetter
Fraternity Vice-President College	Amy Hayner Kates
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Fraternity Vice-President Education	Katie Busby
Fraternity Vice-President Finance and Facilities	Zita Enloe
Fraternity Vice-President Membership	Julie Ruffolo Gilpin
Fraternity Vice-President Public Relations	Deborah Bornmann Allen
Foundation President	Wendy Sears Goshert
Fraternity Headquarters	8740 Founders Road Indianapolis, IN 46268-1300
Phone	317.876.1870 1.800.526.1870
FAX	317.876.1925
E-mail	info@kappaalphatheta.org
Website	www.kappaalphatheta.org

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Elizabeth Rinck, Editor
KAO Fraternity Headquarters,
8740 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268-1300
317-876-8593 or 888-526-1870, ext. 150
E-mail: lrinck@kappaalphatheta.org

Send notices of deaths to:

KAO Fraternity Headquarters,
Attn.: Membership Coordinator
8740 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268-1300
317-876-8593 or 888-526-1870, ext. 107
E-mail: gbrown@kappaalphatheta.org

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Winter October 23
Spring January 31
Summer April 11

Kappa Alpha Theta Fraternity, founded at Indiana Asbury College (DePauw University), Greencastle, Indiana, on January 27, 1870, is the first Greek-letter fraternity known among women.

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CONTENTS

WINTER 2006-07 • VOLUME 121 • NUMBER 2

REGULAR FEATURES

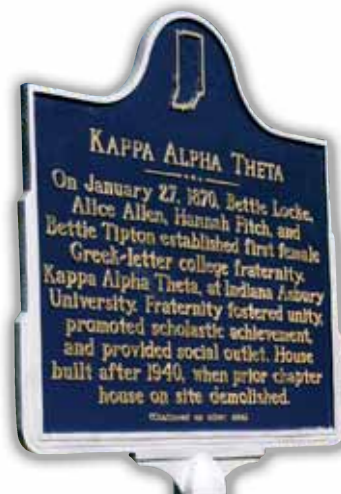
- CORRESPONDENCE • 4 SITE TO SEE • 13
- THETA TIMES • 5 IN THE NEXT ISSUE • 23
- FOUNDATION • 6 IN MEMORIAM • 27
- HONORARY & MEMORIAL GIFTS • 7 THROUGH THE YEARS • 28
- SNAPSHOTS • 8 CONNECTIONS • 29

SPECIAL FEATURES

- FRIENDSHIP FUND AND FOUNDERS DAY MESSAGE • 12
How do you define the indefinable: our membership in Kappa Alpha Theta?
- MARKING A PLACE IN INDIANA HISTORY • 14
Alpha Chapter at DePauw celebrates Theta's recognition by the Indiana Historical Bureau.
- A CULTURAL REVOLUTION • 16
Ready or not: social networking websites are transforming our culture.
- IN THEIR OWN WORDS • 18
Two Thetas talk about friendship, their heroes, and their favorite Theta memories.
- OUT OF THIS WORLD • 20
Rebecca Masterson Wong, ZM/MIT, helps space shuttles fly.
- SISTERHOOD THRIVES IN CHANGING TIMES • 24
Kappa Chapter at Kansas celebrates 125 years of sisterhood.
- BADGE OF DISTINCTION • 25
Our badge is the primary symbol of the Fraternity.
- THREE THETAS AND ... A CHEETAH • 26
The story of an unusual "Theta connection."
- ENHANCING THE FRATERNITY SYSTEM • 27
Twelve Thetas serve their Panhellenic communities.
- KITES OVER CONNECTICUT • 31
Theta's newest college chapter is installed at Quinnipiac University.

ON THE COVER

To celebrate Founders Day — January 27 — this issue celebrates the Theta badge, the most visible symbol of the Fraternity.



14



20

facebook

Jane's Profile

No
photo

16

Notice: Because Kappa Alpha Theta is not an officially recognized student group at Harvard, the school prohibits the use of the word "Harvard" in any published reference to our Zeta Xi Chapter, whose members are Harvard undergraduates.

We regret the following error:

• Barbara Outland Baker, ΓΣ/San Diego State, author of the book *Arnold and Me: In the Shadow of the Austrian Oak*, was misidentified as Barbara Outland Butler in the Autumn 2006 issue.

KAPPA ALPHA THETA MISSION STATEMENT

YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW, KAPPA ALPHA THETA EXISTS TO NURTURE EACH MEMBER THROUGHOUT HER COLLEGE AND ALUMNAE EXPERIENCE AND TO OFFER LIFELONG OPPORTUNITY FOR SOCIAL, INTELLECTUAL, AND MORAL GROWTH AS SHE MEETS THE HIGHER AND BROADER DEMANDS OF MATURE LIFE.

CORRESPONDENCE

FOR A LIFETIME

Imagine my happy surprise to receive the Summer 2006 issue of the Theta magazine. I have moved around a lot and have been out of touch with the Fraternity, sorry to say.

Being 94 years old (soon to be 95), I am probably the oldest Theta still around so if I were to plan a reunion, I'm sure I would be the only attendee, but it has been very exciting to read about Thetas and all the reunions and various activities always going on all over the country.

I so appreciated the summer issue and I am looking forward to future issues.

GERALDINE FERGUSON TINDALL
TX/FRESNO STATE

What a pleasant surprise to see our 50th reunion photograph on the cover of the Summer 2006 issue of the Theta magazine! Your reunion article was excellent. And my very own Theta daughter, Lissa Walker, is pictured on photograph number one on page 10.

JUDY PRATT LAIRD
BE/OREGON STATE

How delighted I was when I saw the cover of this summer's Theta magazine. I had just returned from a reunion with my Theta sisters and was inspired to write the following.

I can't explain my connection to these seven women with whom I have spent the past 72 hours. They are more than friends, more than sisters ... they are another part of me.

We have been apart 13 years, more than three times longer than we were together. We are so different from one another: different backgrounds, different careers, different stressors, and different choices in the way that we are currently living our lives. Yet there is something that binds us, an energy, a love that is unconditional, undefined, and enduring.

These are "my girls." They energize me and excite me. They inspire me and send me searching for ways to be a better mother, friend, wife, and self. They are thought-provoking and engaging in so many ways. They support me and nurture me. They make me laugh until my stomach is sore, and they allow me to laugh at myself, not looking at life too seriously. When

they are not around, their love holds me until they are.

But why them? Why me? Why after 13 years of seeing one another for a brief weekend each year, is our connection so strong?

Our shared experience is the University of Tulsa and specifically the Gamma Tau Chapter. When we get together each year, we still fall into old patterns. Much of our interaction has become ritualized, telling the same stories, laughing at the same jokes, dancing to the same songs. We even have the same speech patterns that we developed when we were in our late teens. But there are always new things brought to share as we experience the challenges of careers, motherhood, relationships, aging parents, and life in general.

So why does this work? My girlfriends have a commitment, not only to one another, but to the group as a whole and the importance of reconnecting once a year. We do not take this gift of unconditional love, laughter, and spirit for granted.

Certainly, we aren't perfect. There is conflict, misunderstanding, and chit-chat behind backs. There are times when we experience exasperation with one another. But overwhelmingly, there is acceptance. I can be myself—however silly, annoying, and obsessive—and they still love me.

My girlfriends allow me to journey to find my true self. They reflect back to me the many different facets of myself and allow me to stretch and grow in areas that might otherwise be uncomfortable. Most importantly, my girlfriends are home, and I can't imagine life without them.

ERIN LERARIS
TT/TULSA

TO ABBY WITH LOVE

I just happened to pick up my mother's copy of her Theta magazine and was so touched by the letter written by Janet Favinger Brinkman. She wrote the most beautiful, touching letter about her daughter who was so tragically killed in a boating accident. I feel in some ways as though I knew her.

My words can't express how courageous and how much strength it must have taken for her to write that letter.

Instead of crawling into a hole with crippling grief, she has chosen to talk about her daughter's goodness and how much she gave to everyone in her life. Her letter has touched me beyond belief.

Thank you for printing such a beautiful letter. I wish her the best of wishes and I know that because of Janet, Abby will live on.

MARION NIELSEN
EDMONTON, CANADA

It is healing for me to share Abby's story, and I heard from several people who had read the letter. Since I wrote that, Abby's cousin Chloe pledged Theta at DePauw. She was initiated with the pin used by Abby and me and recently attended Grand Convention in San Antonio. Abby was awarded her MD in May, the first posthumous medical degree ever awarded by IU School of Medicine and was named an honorary pediatric resident at Riley Hospital for Children. Her spirit does live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

JANET FAVINGER BRINKMAN
NH/HANOVER

WRITE TO US!

Do you have a comment about an article in this or any other issue of *The Magazine*? Do you know an accomplished Theta who would be a good subject for a profile article? Do you have a Theta issue on your mind?

Then let us hear from you! We are pleased to receive letters from our readers; we value your input.

Letters to *The Magazine* may be sent via e-mail (lrinck@kappaalpha-theta.org); regular mail (Liz Rinck, Kappa Alpha Theta, 8740 Founders Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46268); or fax (317-876-1925). ♦

HELP WANTED

Desperately seeking a president for the Gamma Mu/Maryland facility corporation board. This is a great opportunity for a volunteer who enjoys interior design and/or property management. We are also seeking general members for the board. Please send an e-mail to gmfcbpres@yahoo.com if you are interested and would like to learn more.

NEW ALUMNAE CHAPTERS

Congratulations to the Springfield Area (Mo.), Edmonton (Alberta), Concord (Mass.), Charleston Lowcountry (SC), and Grand Rapids (Mich.) Alumnae Chapters, which were granted charters by Grand Council in 2006. More information about joining and starting alumnae chapters is available at www.kappaalphatheta.org.

MILESTONE YEARS

The Fraternity headquarters staff comprises 18 people, two-thirds of whom have worked for Theta for more than five years! This year, Lorie Land, technical/office services coordinator, and Gretchen Brown, membership coordinator, celebrate their 15-year anniversaries.

WEAR YOUR BADGE WITH PRIDE

International Panhellenic Badge Day, March 5, 2007, is an annual effort sponsored by the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) and Herff Jones Greek Division to encourage fraternity women to celebrate their Greek affiliations by wearing their badge or letters.

By wearing letters or badges, fraternity members can encourage questions and discussion about the Greek system. We can promote the lifetime opportunities for friendship, learning, and service that Theta provides.



DISTRICT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES

This January and February, more than 1,150 Thetas will gather in nine cities across the US for annual District Leadership Conferences (DLC). College chapter presidents and the vice-presidents finance, education, administration, development, external relations, membership, and Panhellenic, plus advisors, will receive education and training in leadership, personal development, and Theta-specific programs.

District I

Indianapolis, Ind.
Feb. 9-11, 2007

District II

Hyatt Regency Pittsburgh Airport
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Feb. 2-4, 2007

District III

Hyatt Regency Cambridge
Cambridge, Mass.
Feb. 23-25, 2007

District IV

Washington Dulles Airport Marriott
Dulles, Va.
Feb. 23-25, 2007

District V

Renaissance Concourse Atlanta Airport
Atlanta, Ga.
Feb. 9-11, 2007

District VI

Dallas/Fort Worth Airport Marriott North
Irving, Texas
Jan. 26-28, 2007

District VII

Renaissance Montura LA Airport
Los Angeles, Calif.
Feb. 2-4, 2007

District VIII

San Mateo Marriott San Francisco Airport
San Mateo, Calif.
Jan. 26-28, 2007

District IX

Hilton Omaha
Omaha, Neb.
Jan. 19-21, 2007

• More information is available at www.kappaalphatheta.org •

REUNIONS ANNOUNCED

ΔΩ/TEXAS A&M

Save the date! The 31st anniversary of the Delta Omega Chapter at Texas A&M will be held February 2-4, 2007, in College Station, Texas. Please send your contact information to Suzanne FitzGerrell Caram (sfcaram@houston.rr.com)

ΓM/MARYLAND

Members of the Gamma Mu Chapter will celebrate the chapter's 60th anniversary at the University of Maryland on Saturday, April 21, 2007 at the Samuel Riggs IV Alumnae Center. Please contact Sue Laffan Thompson, chairman, soozy@comcast.net for more information or to update your address.

ΓM/MARYLAND

Audrey Woloshin (1980) and Margi Colvin (1981) are planning a reunion in Rehoboth Beach, Del., Jan. 12-15, 2007. Both our homes will be available for accommodatons. If interested, contact Audrey, aewoloshin@aol.com, or Margi, robert.margaret@dol.net.

ZN/UC DAVIS

The Zeta Nu Chapter at UC Davis will hold a 15-year anniversary cele-

bration on April 14, 2007. Come for Picnic Day and stay for the celebration! For more information, please contact Tina Villarete Tran, tinatrand-vm@yahoo.com or 971.222.3827.

PLANNING A REUNION?

If you are trying to locate Thetas from your chapter for a reunion, place a reunion notice in *The Magazine*! Send a brief notice to Reunions, *The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine*, 8740 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268. Be sure to include a contact name, phone number, and e-mail address.

Notices for reunions to be held May through July must be received by January 31; for August through October, received by April 11; for November through January, received by July 11; and for February through April, by October 23.



KAPPA ALPHA THETA FOUNDATION



Be A Part of One of the Biggest Charitable Giving Tax Incentives In Years and

Help the Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation

Have you heard about the new charitable tax incentive?

Newly enacted federal legislation enables you to make a gift from your IRA directly to the Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation and exclude the transferred amount from your income for federal tax purposes. Individuals at least 70½ can transfer up to \$100,000 directly to the Foundation each year in 2006 and 2007.

The transfer must be made directly from your IRA account to the Foundation and must be for an outright gift; planned gifts do not qualify. There is no income tax deduction for the transfer; the amount is simply not included in your income.

Did you know?

If you are over 70½, you are already required to take minimum distributions from your IRA. Now you can transfer up to \$100,000 from your IRA to the Foundation, meet your required minimum distribution and avoid income tax. This new incentive is a great way for you to realize your charitable and financial goals.

You can make a significant impact on Kappa Alpha Theta! Your gift could provide scholarships, leadership opportunities or friendship fund gifts to sisters in need. You could also give an unrestricted gift that would help the Foundation fund its most immediate operating priorities. However you give, your giving will impact women and the organizations we support!

Want to learn more?

If you would like more information, or are interested in making a gift through your IRA, please contact Jennifer Pendleton, executive director, at 1-800-526-1870 or JPendleton@kappaalphatheta.org. We encourage you to discuss this new provision with your financial advisors and/or tax preparer to determine whether this opportunity would meet your individual goals.

In 2007, The Foundation will award \$500,000 in undergraduate and graduate scholarships to more than 140 Thetas.

If you don't apply... you can't win!

See details on page 23

Learn. Grow. Excel.





FOUNDATION GIFTS RECEIVED

JULY 1, 2006 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

IN HONOR OF:

2006-2008 Grand Council
by Debbie Bornmann Allen
by Marcia Wolff Thompson

Birth of Cadence Burke McCreery
by S. Elizabeth Woodard

Birth of Ryan & Reece Robertson
by S. Elizabeth Woodard

Birth of Blake Coleman Rowland
by S. Elizabeth Woodard

Jacqueline Abel
by Barbara Lucas Abel

Genevieve "Genny" Butz Adsit
by The Platinum Kites

Debbie Bornmann Allen
by Elizabeth "Liz" Ayscue Katz

Alpha Omicron Chapter
by Jill McKenzie Bailey

Frankie Drozak Bell
by Joan Tonning Hug

Beta Lambda Chapter
by Dorothy Agurk Edmunds

Lissa Luton Bradford
by Helen Edwards Woodward

Carole Frankovich Brophy
by Debbie Bornmann Allen
by Anne Sadler Budill

Anne Sadler Budill
by Martha Schroyer Hudlow
by Janet Schoeller Knight
by Nicole "Nikki" Letawsky Shultz
by Marcia Wolff Thompson

Anne Sadler Budill's outstanding service to the Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation
by Joni Schneider Morrow

Dana Morrow Butler
by Barbara Claire Schmidt Heinen

Meredith Clote
by Jackie and Paul Clote

College Finance Committee
by Marcia Wolff Thompson

Convention and Headquarters Staff
by Bonnie Batrich Brown

Carol Huckaby Daley
by Elizabeth "Liz" Ayscue Katz

Lisa Overbeck Davis
by Angela Otterman Dickman

Mary Jane Ebert Debenport and her daughters, Madi Beth and Lily
by Suzanne Luton Woodruff

Delta Epsilon Founders Award 2006
by Cindy Westhafer Smith

District III Team
by Danielle N. Henry
by Nicole "Nikki" Letawsky Shultz

District IX Team
by Kelly J. Erskine

Margaret Fawcett Edwards
by Ann Fawcett Murphy

Zita Enloe
by Nan Brinegar Matson

Diane McIntyre Evans
by Barbara Claire Schmidt Heinen

Fall 2006 Delta Upsilon New Members
by Mary Howard Leppo

Martha Snyder Fawcett
by Ann Fawcett Murphy

Mary Ellen Kutsenda Fitzsimonds
by Helen Edwards Woodward

Patricia "Pat" Boynton Frey
by The Platinum Kites

Gamma Psi Chapter
by Barbara Johnston Keppel

Megan E. Gentile
by Carlene and Joe Gentile

Wendy Sears Goshert
by Debbie Bornmann Allen

Headquarters Staff
by Martha West Griffith

Mary Herff
by Laura Howell Moorman

Grace Baer Holderman on the occasion of her 94th Birthday
by Judy Kubly Alexander

Kelley Galbreath Hurst
by Elizabeth Hoza Harootyan

Amy Johnson
by Nancy N. Bui

Amy Hayner Kates
by Elizabeth Hoza Harootyan

Nancy Koberstein
by The Platinum Kites

Tracey Horth Krueger
by Wendy Sears Goshert

Sarah Spruance Langner
by Susan Spruance

Karen Albrecht Ledbetter
by Katy Casey
by Cindy Westhafer Smith

Anna Lambert Lemert
by Fran Cooper Sale

Carolyn E. Lowry
by Astride and Eddie Lowry

Jenifer L. Lucas
by Janet Paine Peters

Kathleen Markey
by Debbie Bornmann Allen
by Anne Sadler Budill

Carol McHenry
by Barbara Wykes Plampin

Carol Stenberg McPadden
by Marcia Wolff Thompson
by Helen Edwards Woodward

Membership Committee
by Danielle Henry

Amy Miller
by Wendy Sears Goshert

Jamie Miller
by Wendy Sears Goshert

Jen Miller
by Wendy Sears Goshert

Joan Miller
by Wendy Sears Goshert

Helen Minter
by Shirley Somers

Angie Low Molina
by Elizabeth "Liz" Ayscue Katz

Nancy Rees Newman
by The Theta Sewing Club in Austin, TX

Katy Oldham
by Cindy Westhafer Smith

Leslie Olsen
by Wendy Sears Goshert

Phoenix Alumnae Chapter
by Heather Breuninger Granato

Mimi Reinertson Rosen
by Kimberly Marks

Casey Rosien
by Dorothy R. Allmon

Cynthia Byrne Schick
by Wendy Sears Goshert

Lyn Stewart Simensen
by Debbie Bornmann Allen
by Anne Sadler Budill
by Katy Oldham
by Fran Cooper Sale
by Marcia Wolff Thompson

Susan "Susie" Mueller Sladoje
by The Platinum Kites

Cindy Westhafer Smith
by Katy Oldham

Teryn Stowers
by Dennis and Tonja Stowers

Sue Laffan Thompson
by Jenifer L. Lucas

Jane Froehlig Walsh
by Angie Otterman Dickman

Helen Edwards Woodward
by Nicole "Nikki" Letawsky Shultz

Marcia Wright
by Delta Epsilon Chapter

Mindy Young
by Marcia Wolff Thompson

Zeta Tau Chapter
by Danielle Henry

IN CELEBRATION OF:

75-Year Theta Grace Baer Holderman
by Judy Kubly Alexander

50-Year Theta Barbara Bicknell Westmoreland
by Melissa Mays Hansen

60th Wedding Anniversary of Nancy Teichgraeber Davis and Bill Davis
by Patricia Blank Kortlander

Birth of Connie and Caroline Gillum
by Martha Bredezen Hoza

Birth of Daniel David Vanisko
by Jacquelyn Ann Vanisko

Marriage of Suzanne Clarke and Mel Zurn
by Jenifer L. Lucas

Wedding of Meghan McCullough and Todd Pease
by Laura Reid Pease

All Thetas
by Dale Vance Braun

Debbie Bornmann Allen, elected to FVP-PR
by Elizabeth "Liz" Ayscue Katz

Cynthia Haslam Arnholt
by Mr. and Mrs. James A. Haslam III

Susan Haslam Bailey
by Mr. and Mrs. James A. Haslam III

Samantha Bane
by Dan and Sandy Bane

Beta Delta Chapter
by April Thompson Ritchie

Beta Phi's Diamond Jubilee
by Catherine A. Convery

Robert E. Blauw
by Maibelle Drumm Blauw

Amanda Borgida
by Kathy Borgida

Anne Sadler Budill

by Marcia Hanf Clouser

Kim Bowen Burrous, appointment to ADO
by Elizabeth "z" Ayscue Katz

Kelly Compton
by Katherine Sweet Schoenbaechler

Delta Rho Chapter
by Bonnie B. Kearns

Epsilon Lambda New Member Class 1995
by Tara "TJ" Flynn Condon

Judy Smith Estey's Birthday
by Jenifer L. Lucas

Niki Estrin's Marriage to Bill Foderaro
by Yolanda Rodriguez Sellers

Carla Hogge being published
by Kathryn Hogge Fowler

Heidi Locker-Scheer, appointment to ADP
by Elizabeth "Liz" Ayscue Katz

Jenifer L. Lucas
by Suzy King Jolley

Jennifer L. Lucas's Birthday
by Sue Laffan Thompson

Rita Moschovidis
by Christiane J. Hoffman

My Fellow Grand Convention Nominating Committee Members
by Christiane J. Hoffman

My wonderful experience at Grand Convention in San Antonio
by Kathryn Ann Baker Farris

Maureen Guerrero Null's Birthday
by Sue Laffan Thompson

Psi 1955 Class
by Jean McDowell Consigny

Crystelle Sanders's 90th Birthday
by Frances R. Bagwell-Axelsson

Ally Scolari's 16th Birthday
by Barbara Kellberg Scolari

Tammy Sittnick's Law School Graduation
by Jenifer L. Lucas

Jessie Thompson, birth of twins
by Flatirons Alumnae Chapter

Ruth Stone Thomson's 94th Birthday
by Jean Thomson Harrison
by Janet Harrison McLaughlin

Mariyn Walz
by Dot Nance Hager

IN MEMORY OF:

Elizabeth Darling Akright
by Patricia H. Chicoine

Audrey "Bobbie" Anderson Fessenden
by Jane Fletcher Odland

Carolyn Wright Fish
by Rebecca Fish Richer

Kathleen Riggsbee Freeman
by Joni Tischer Butler

Veronica A. Freeman
by Marcia June Corbett

Judith Stock Funk
by Beta Phi Class of 1960 at Penn State University

Molly McIntyre Gaskins
by Debrah Owens Bennett

Clementine Allen
by Danielle Dietrich Kilpatrick

Jodi Bacon
by Debbie A. Stevens

Thomas "Bud" Barnaby
by Phyllis Barnaby

Joan Morrison Barry
by Jean Perdue deGruchy

Lindy Baugh
by Jeanne Johnson Bose
by Barbara Johnson Burlingame

William L. Bennett
by Phyllis Barnaby

Betsy Sierk Corridan
by Kelley Galbreath Hurst
by Cindy Shaffer Thoenes

Mary Jane Bernet
by Molly J. Salatch

Lois Bible
by Charles Colomello
by Bob Englert

Frances Bible Gileno
by Jean Gileno

HerGin Aviation, Inc.
by Chuck Levitt
by Marianne McFadden

Eric Shank
by Sky Acres Airport/Ginnie Styles

Terri Smith
by Conrad F. Thiede

Isabelle Burdeau Black
by Alice Vanwagenen Fraser

Edith Davis Bowen
by Jeannette Bowen Runyan

Bray Bradley Brackin
by Gretchen Alexander

Abigail Drake Brinkman
by Anonymous

Mildred Cappello
by Ann Marie Wallace

Chris Christy
by Sally Kimmel Young

Muriel Hobson Clarke
by Ann Wilkin Crow
by Barbara Wilkin Shepard

By Jeanne Woodcox Taggart
by Carol Lyon Vogel

Lisa Davelle
by Jennifer Dunham Lehfeldt

Martha DuMars Davis
by Sara Davis Phelps
by Mimi Davis Reid

Gay DeLand
by Elizabeth "Liz" Ayscue Katz

Anne Triba Dittick
by Jacque McIntire Rhodes

Audrey "Bobbie" Anderson Fessenden
by Jane Fletcher Odland

Carolyn Wright Fish
by Rebecca Fish Richer

Kathleen Riggsbee Freeman
by Joni Tischer Butler

Veronica A. Freeman
by Marcia June Corbett

Judith Stock Funk
by Beta Phi Class of 1960 at Penn State University

Molly McIntyre Gaskins
by Debrah Owens Bennett

continued, page 29

SNAPSHOTS



Thetas from the **Zeta Sigma Chapter** at **Ohio Northern** traveled to Muncie, Ind., to support their **Delta Sigma** sisters as recruitment commenced on **Ball State's** campus. Not only were the Delta Sigmas appreciative of the corroboration, but the Zeta Sigmas also benefited from the added preparation for their upcoming recruitment. **Amanda Taynor**, Zeta Sigma Chapter president, remarked, "We were able to pick up some songs and structural ideas while we were there."



Sarah Rutter, **Jamie Ousman**, and **Jaime Pursuit**, all **Beta Xi** from **UCLA** celebrated a successful five-day trek to historic Machu Picchu.



Thetas travel the world! Here a few **Alphas** from **DePauw**, **Shantelle Ransdell**, **Maggie Tresslar**, **Sheena Arink**, and **Jessica Oesch**, pose in front of the Parthenon in Athens.



Former educational leadership consultant **Lauren Pistocco Johnson**, **BZ/Oklahoma State**, and **Jason Johnson** were joined by the '05-'06 ELCs for their wedding in July. (Front) **Emily Leeton**, **HI/San Diego**; **Liz Bush**, **EY/Richmond**; **Melissa Rocco**, **AI/Ohio State**; **Erin Tallent**, **BA/William & Mary**; (back) **Ashley Jones**, **AT/Cincinnati**; **Bricklin Bernard**, **ΓΦ/Texas Tech**; **Jenni Broughton**, **Γ/Butler**; and **Jackie Vollmer**, **ΔE/Arizona State**.

Sarah Carlino, **HH/Albertson College**, applied to and was chosen to participate in a program in Italy with 45 other young Italian Americans.

In the spring of 2005, **Laura Fraser Reathaford**, **BX/Alberta**, and her husband, Scott, gave birth to a daughter, Emma Grace, and a new business, **BabySwap.NET**. **BabySwap.NET** is a directory of useful baby services, searchable by city, state or ZIP code, as well as an on-line forum where parents can chat about baby-related topics. Visit www.BabySwap.NET for an economical way to buy, sell or "swap" used baby goods and services, and to share information.

This summer, **Yuna Rapoport** and **Jackie Coburn**, both **T/Northwestern**, competed in the Dodge High Caliber Challenge. It is a five-day road trip to generate awareness for Global Music Project, a non-profit organization that allows individuals to download songs for a minimum donation of \$1 per song with proceeds going to select charities, in this case Doctors Without Borders.

Hailey Moore, **EE/Baylor**; **Jen Ware**, **BA/Arizona**; and **Mary Lee Hackedorn**, **ΔΩ/Texas A&M**, graduated from SMU's Dedman School of Law in May.

Ginnie Peirce Volkman, **BA/William and Mary**, was recently interviewed by reporter Jerry Markon of *The Washington Post* for an article about the CASA program in Arlington, Va. Volkman, a retired teacher, became an advocate last fall and was given her first case immediately. Darryl, the child profiled in the article, has had Volkman as his CASA for approximately ten months.

Dee Carlo Fery, **AA/Washington**, arts champion, philanthropist and former chairwoman of the Idaho Commission on the Arts (ICA), was presented the 2006 Distinguished Public Services Award. This award recognized her outstanding service, creative thinking and leadership in the field of public support for the arts of Idaho and was presented by the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA).

Friends helping friends and inspiring one another to run a marathon was a recurring theme at the first Denver Marathon. **Beth Daly**, **B/Indiana**, joined by friends, experienced firsthand the elation of crossing the finish line.

Jennifer Kunkle, president of the **Beta Nu Chapter** at **Florida State**, decided to chop ten inches off her hair and donate it to Locks of Love. Kunkle commented, "It felt so good to cut off the 10 inches and donate it!"



Each year the **Lubbock Alumnae Chapter** hosts an Ivy Dinner for all graduating seniors of **Gamma Phi Chapter** at **Texas Tech** and their guests.

ALUMNAE



ΔK/LSU new initiates and twin sisters, **Meredith** (left) and **Stephanie Allen** (right) were visited in the spring by **Nancy McDonough**, AΘ/Texas, and her daughter **Susan Tevis Jennings**, ΔK/LSU.



Theta women from the **Gamma Phi Chapter** at **Texas Tech** displayed Panhellenic spirit when they raised money and researched affordable avenues for Delta Delta Delta's Phi Eta Chapter to repair landscaping that had been vandalized. The chapter, led by Vice-President Public Relations **Sharon Hughes** and President **Heather Calkins**, worked with Facility Corporation President **Marge Barnes** and landscaper Russ Plowman. Ultimately Theta gifted new plants and Plowman's company offered a 25 percent discount on landscaping to Delta Delta Delta just in time for recruitment.



Carrie Roush, **Valerie Caras** and **Caitlin Kovalkoski**, EA/Dickinson College, recently visited Bethany Beach, Del. where they created a Theta inspired "sandcastle." Have a look at the very first Kappa Alpha Theta beach-badge!

The **Chi Chapter** actively participated in new student orientation at **Syracuse University**. Twenty-one Thetas joined the Goon Squad, an SU tradition that helps new students move into their residence halls; ten served as student peer advisors to help first-year students adjust to academic life; and twelve volunteered at Exploring the Soul of Downtown Syracuse, a street fair-type event to introduce first-year students to their new city. The activities resulted in great opportunities for the incoming freshman to meet Thetas!

Julie McSweeney Alexander, ΔK/LSU; **Ashley Merlin**, EP/Lehigh; **Jodie Woodward Gasquet**, ΔK/LSU; **Ridgely Pittman Myers**, AΦ/Tulane; and **Stephanie Smith**, ΔK/LSU, all members of the **New Orleans Alumnae Chapter**, gathered for their annual meeting and "senior send-off" event.



New Orleans Alumnae Chapter



Flatirons Alumnae Chapter

The **Flatirons Alumnae Chapter** (NW Denver Metro/Boulder) kicked off the fall with their annual potluck get-together. 30 Thetas, including five collegians from the **University of Colorado's Beta Iota Chapter**, gathered for dinner to hear about President **Gail Dotson's** adventures at Grand Convention 2006.

Gamma Nu Chapter and the **Fargo Alumnae Chapter** held their Founders Day event on January 23 at the NDSU Alumni Center.



Gamma Nu and Fargo Alumnae Chapters

The **Indianapolis Alumnae Chapter** held an anniversary luncheon in May. (*Top picture, back*) **Elizabeth Lewis McMillan**, A/DePauw; **Melinda Miller Mascaro**, BΣ/SMU; **Kim Cutter Dickman** and **Judy Biggs Estridge**, B/Indiana; and **Liz Copher Browning**, A/DePauw celebrated their 25th anniversary; (*front*) **Dorothy Wurst Porter** and **Ellen Rogers Kahlo**, A/DePauw; and **Dorothea Smock Bowers**, Γ/Butler celebrated their 75th anniversary.



(*Bottom picture*) Members celebrating 50 years(*back*) :**Sue Tarr Ryerson**, **Dottie Jacobs Bowman**, **Muffi Murphy James**, **Phyllis Thomas Puterbaugh**, **Jane Wiseheart Huff**, (*front*) **Judy Barr Hart**, and **Martha Teeter**



Spraetz, all Γ/Butler; **Jane Gorham Clark**, AX/Purdue; **Sarah Cook Barney**, B/Indiana; **Anne Wahle Cline**, and **Suzanne Harrar Greer**, both BT/Denison.

Indianapolis Alumnae Chapter

THETA FAMILIES

(Below) Three generations of the Miller/Spurrier family gathered for the initiation of **Lauren Miller** (front) into the **Alpha Mu Chapter** at **Missouri**. It was a very happy reunion for grandmother, **Patricia Larkin Miller, AM/Missouri**; cousins, **Jackie Spurrier Hagan, AM/Missouri**, and **Jaime Spurrier, EI/Westminster College**; and family friend, **Cheryl Sullivan Erdel, AM/Missouri**.



Thetas celebrating **Catherine Blair's** initiation into the **Alpha Mu Chapter** at **Missouri** included Blair's grandmother, **Roses Diekroeger Palmer**; her sister, **Amy Blair**; and her mother, **Elizabeth Dallmeyer Blair**, all members from the **Alpha Mu Chapter**.

(Below) A family of Thetas ... **Linda Pieplow** proudly stands with her two daughters, **Emily** and **Molly Pieplow**, at Molly's initiation last spring. All three women are members of **Gamma Mu** at the **University of Maryland**.



(Top, right column) Sisters **Ann Olsen Warner** and **Janet Olsen**, both **Beta Gammas** from **Colorado State**, were thrilled to witness their mother, **Carol Orvis Olsen, BQ/Colorado College** (middle) receive her 50-year Theta pin during **Founders Day** in **Washington, DC**.

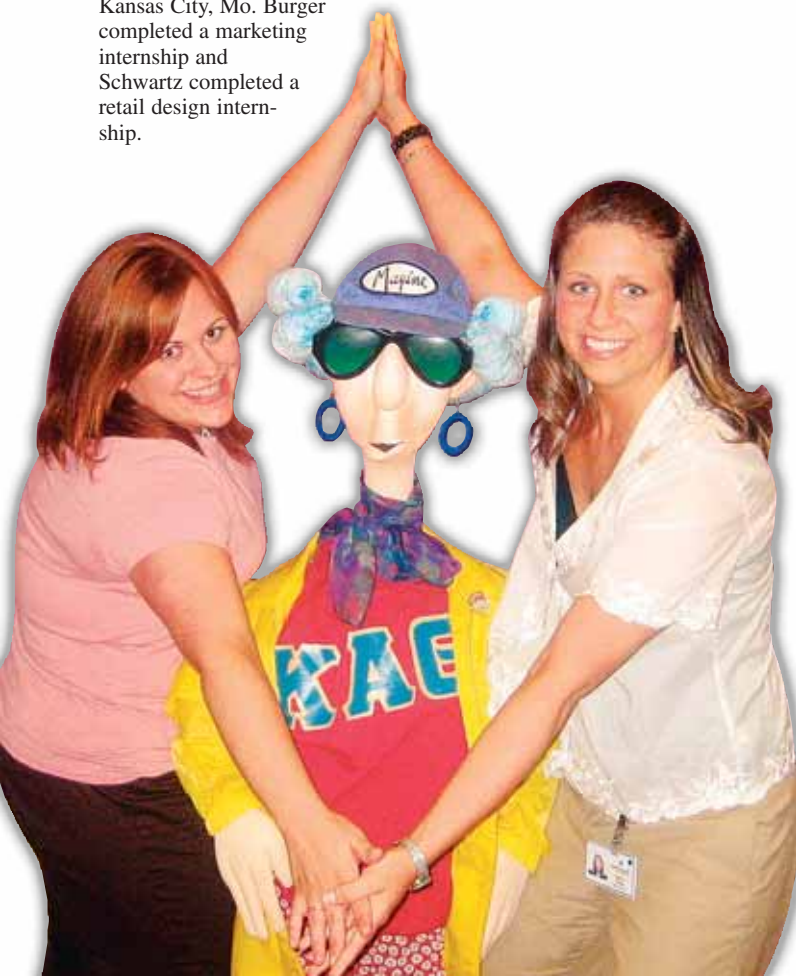


Lauren Hanhart, Γ^Δ/Ohio Wesleyan, smiles with her mother, **Trudy McKnight Hanhart, A/DePauw**, at their home in **Dover, Ohio**.



Carly Burger, K/Kansas, met **Molly Schwartz, ΓΠ/Iowa State**, during their 2006 summer internships at the **Hallmark Cards** headquarters in **Kansas City, Mo**. Burger completed a marketing internship and Schwartz completed a retail design internship.

While attending a conference in **Missoula, Mont.**, **Rennae Sletten Daneshvary** reunited with her Theta roommate **Barb Troyer Witz**, resident of **Missoula**, for dinner. Both are members of the **Upsilon Chapter** at **Minnesota**.



In October, eight Thetas helped with the opening of the **Denver Art Museum's** new **Frederick C. Hamilton building**. Six are pictured: **Sherla Jennings Alberola, BΠ/Michigan State**, ambassador; **Patty Bouic Williams, BT/Dennison**, senior educator and master teacher for Asian and textile art; **Do Kelleher Bredar, BO/Iowa**, docent; **Carol Swope Reeves, ΓI/Kentucky**, docent; **June Weeks Patterson, AX/Purdue**, information and membership; and **Lydia Martindale Troxler, AX/Purdue**, docent.

Reunions



1 (Front) Barbara Roland Smith, Arden Tree Wolf, Shirley Allen Douglas, (back) Ginger Anderson Birdsall, Barbara Taylor Morgan, and Patricia Doherty Hjelm, met at The Slanted Door in San Francisco for their biannual luncheon. The pledged the **Gamma Xi Chapter** at **San Jose State** in 1953-54.



2 In June, six alumnae of the **Mu Chapter** at **Allegheny** gathered for a 50th reunion in Meadville, Pa. One of the attendees, Deedee Jeffries, commented, "...among many other scheduled activities, we were invited to an open house in the Theta Suite, and royally treated." **Jinny Ward Noth, DeeDee MacGregor Jeffries, Alice Bowden D'Alessio, Barbara Coulson Siemons, Mary Goodwin Dummer, and Barbara Christman Kibler** were all initiated in 1953 and continue strong friendships today.



3 This group of Theta women pledged the **Beta Pi Chapter** at **Michigan State** in 1953 and reunited in East Lansing, Mich. **Betty Timmerman Britton** took a photo of **Christine Crotty Brown, Carolyn Roth, Mary Neller Jessup, Janice Somers Jonson, Jo Lassen Zavitz, and Jeanne Joy Comeau** with the MSU mascot, Sparty.



4 Fort Collins, Colo., provided the perfect backdrop for a **Beta Gamma** reunion this summer. Forty **Colorado State** alumnae from 1968 to 1978 traveled from all corners of the country to join in the celebration.



5 49-and-50-year Thetas, including **Ellen Pardon Jones, AM/Missouri (2nd from left), Marilyn Mitchell Comstock, Jerry Ann Lewis Dunn, Judy Deckert O'Neal, Martha Shipe Ehrlich, Gloria Geis Cisna, and Suzanne Fenton Carpenter**, all **Beta Zetas** from **Oklahoma State**, enjoyed an annual weekend at Grand Lake in Ketchum, Okla.



6 (Front) **Michele Fideler Adams, Margaret Cahill Bottorff, (back) Heather Broermann Kruse, Kristin Mensing Thorne, Siri Madvig Long, and Maria Mausser Ives** attended **Iowa's** Homecoming festivities in October. Initiated in 1992-3, these **Beta Omicron** women celebrated their 10-year college reunion.

7 In May, the 1956 new member class of the **Alpha Sigma Chapter** at **Washington State** celebrated their 50th reunion in Yakima, Wash. The women spent the day touring wineries and picnicking. **Karen Coffin Pratt** commented, "It was obvious how important our days as Alpha Sigmas were to all of us!" **Ann Rebillard Olsen, Karen Coffin Pratt, Lynn Brislawn Rosenstock, Jean Oestreich Galbraith, Katie Monroe Proteau, Joanne Henry Nielson, Peggy Severn Early, and Barbara Morgan Auer** are pictured.



8 Former Fraternity and Foundation officers, dubbed "the Platinum Kites," gathered in Chicago for a reunion. (Front) **Sandra Cross, Louise Geil, Shelly Kuney, Sue Thompson, Maureen Null, Kate Rittner, Marilyn Huseby (row two) Jenifer Lucas, Sue Sautermeister, Jeannine Livesay, Wendy Taylor, Susan Holloway, Judy Alexander, Jane Stout, Sally Hughes (row three) Peggy Jo Coker, Ruthie Langstaff, Pat Frey, Marilyn Lynch, Vicki McCluggage, Florence Ashby, Genny Adsit, Gloria Williams, Janet Peters, (back) Nancy Schutte, Mary Caldwell, Nancy Koberstein, Carolyn Kruger, Dianne Treadwell, Martha Griffith, and Susie Sladoje.**

Other Reunions

A group from the **Beta Zeta Chapter** at **Oklahoma State** 1985 new member class gathered in Houston to celebrate their 40th birthday year. They spent the time catching up, remembering college days, shopping, and attending the Princess Diana exhibit at the Houston Museum of Natural Science.

Michael Hatcher Taylor, Karen Patrick Martin, Marcia Ballard Scott, Claudette Tucker Barnes, Alice Hall Lynn, Gretchen Scherer Israel, and Susan Trice Fieglein were some of the Thetas who traveled to **William and Mary** for a 40+ reunion. The gathering at the home of their alma mater and the **Beta Lambda Chapter** was during Williamsburg's historic garden week.

Welcome to 1976! was the theme for the 30th birthday costume party of **Heather Lauwers Tack, Carrie Krieg Chapie, Jamison Smythe, Jeannette Porter Tarcha, Kari Krupansky, Kelly King, and Mary Pat Bahl Geiger**, all **Beta Pi/Michigan State**, participated in the festivities.

Stacey Nathan, ΓΖ/Connecticut, makes it a priority to plan a trip, go to a concert, or grab a baseball game with her Theta sisters who span New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Boston. She commented, "I hope reunions like these bring inspiration to Theta alums all over the world to stay in touch and never forget what impact Theta had for them."

Founders Day & Friendship Fund Message

How do we define the value of our membership in Kappa Alpha Theta? How do we put an intangible into words? My guess is that this is something we have all struggled with, since it is often hard to express what we feel most deeply.

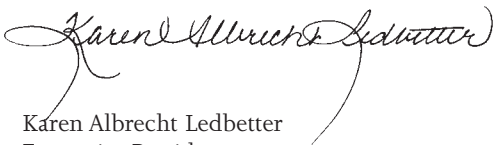
Once every year, however, Founders Day gives us the perfect opportunity to define the indefinable. On Founders Day, we traditionally make gifts to the Friendship Fund. Established in 1926 to "... make real to those who have met sorrow and temporary defeat the practical feel of sister hands clasping theirs in dark places," the Friendship Fund provides gifts to Thetas experiencing severe financial distress, catastrophic illness, natural disaster, and urgent family crisis. It is a very tangible demonstration of what it means to belong to Kappa Alpha Theta.

Last summer, I visited our Delta Kappa Chapter on the campus of Louisiana State and was privileged to witness firsthand the effects of the Friendship Fund and the strength of Kappa Alpha Theta. When evacuees from Hurricane Katrina swelled the population of Baton Rouge by two to three hundred percent in the fall of 2005, the women of Delta Kappa opened their doors. They took in as many displaced Thetas and their families as they could cram into the facility. Every possible sleeping space was taken, and—thanks to the wisdom and level-headedness of chapter officers and the facility director—everyone had food and water and blankets and pillows.

But this is just the beginning of the story. At least one-third of Delta Kappa's members came from homes in the hurricane-torn area. Their parents lost their jobs, their homes, and, in some cases, both. The Friendship Fund provided the means by which many members of Delta Kappa were able to stay in school and continue their involvement with Kappa Alpha Theta. We should be proud of this statistic. We should be proud that during the 2005-2006 fiscal year, the total value of gifts granted from the Friendship Fund was more than three times as much as in any prior year.

I believe that through the Friendship Fund, we not only demonstrate what it means to be a Kappa Alpha Theta, but that we also exemplify the best of human nature. As we commemorate Founders Day, please give generously to the Friendship Fund as an affirmation of the sisterhood that we share.

Loyally,



Karen Albrecht Ledbetter
Fraternity President
IT/Tulsa



We trace the beginning of the Friendship Fund to the 1924 Grand Convention, when a young alumna, Rachel Sumner Poole, Chi/Syracuse, spoke of a Theta in dire need and asked if there was any fund from which the Fraternity could aid her. In response, a committee was formed and recommended the establishment of the Friendship Fund at the 1926 Convention; a few months later, Grand Council suggested starting the fund through contributions at Founders Day celebrations. An important ongoing tradition is the secrecy surrounding the giving of gifts from the fund. Two members write on behalf of a sister, and the Friendship Fund committee determines the award amount. The requesters remain anonymous, and all records are confidential.

Today most contributions to the Friendship Fund continue to be made through Founders Day gifts. The suggested contribution is \$1 per year of Theta membership. The Friendship Fund is under the management of the Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation, so all gifts to it are tax-deductible. Checks, made out to the Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation with "Friendship Fund" noted on the memo line, may be sent to Foundation Headquarters, 8740 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268. ♦



Kappa Alpha Theta

The finest and most
rewarding membership experience

SITE TO SEE

The renovated Theta website debuted last summer; we hope that you are enjoying the new features that it offers! The site is continually evolving, and we like to let readers of *The Magazine* know what's new. So check it out and send us your comments and suggestions.

We're always glad to hear from you.

kappaalphatheta.org

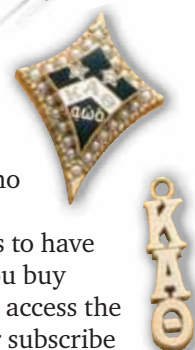


The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine

The Magazine is now online! Currently all four issues from 2006 have been posted, and soon even more back issues will be available. So if you've misplaced that article you cut out for future reference, you now have a back-up.

Theta Marketplace

The holidays are almost at an end, but there is always a reason to buy a gift for that special Theta in your life. Whether she is about to become a new member of Kappa Alpha Theta or she's that friend or family member who seems to have everything, the Theta Marketplace always seems to have that perfect gift. Not only can you buy official jewelry, but you can also access the Pansy Peddler website, renew or subscribe to a magazine, and much more.



Feedback

Thank you to all of you who have written in about the new site; your questions, comments, and suggestions are always welcome! Feel free to send an e-mail to webmaster@kappaalphatheta.org anytime; we love to hear from you!

I love the new look!

The layout is great: very clear, easy to maneuver around, and definitely informative. As an alumna, I especially enjoyed being able to log in to a secure site and view the full ritual. While an advisor, I was able to participate in initiation; re-reading the initiation ritual brought back wonderful memories. WAY TO GO!

— Shannon Gallaspy Walker
ΓΩ/Auburn

I am a Theta alum and logged onto the site for the first time. I just wanted to say that I found the site very helpful and easy to use.... Thanks! I had logged on to find out about recommendation letters for "PNMs." It was great to have easy access to what I needed. Well done!

— Camilla Chapman Carlson
AM/Missouri

I've been impressed with the organization of the site and ease of finding what I need. So I'm very excited about it! Keep up the great work!

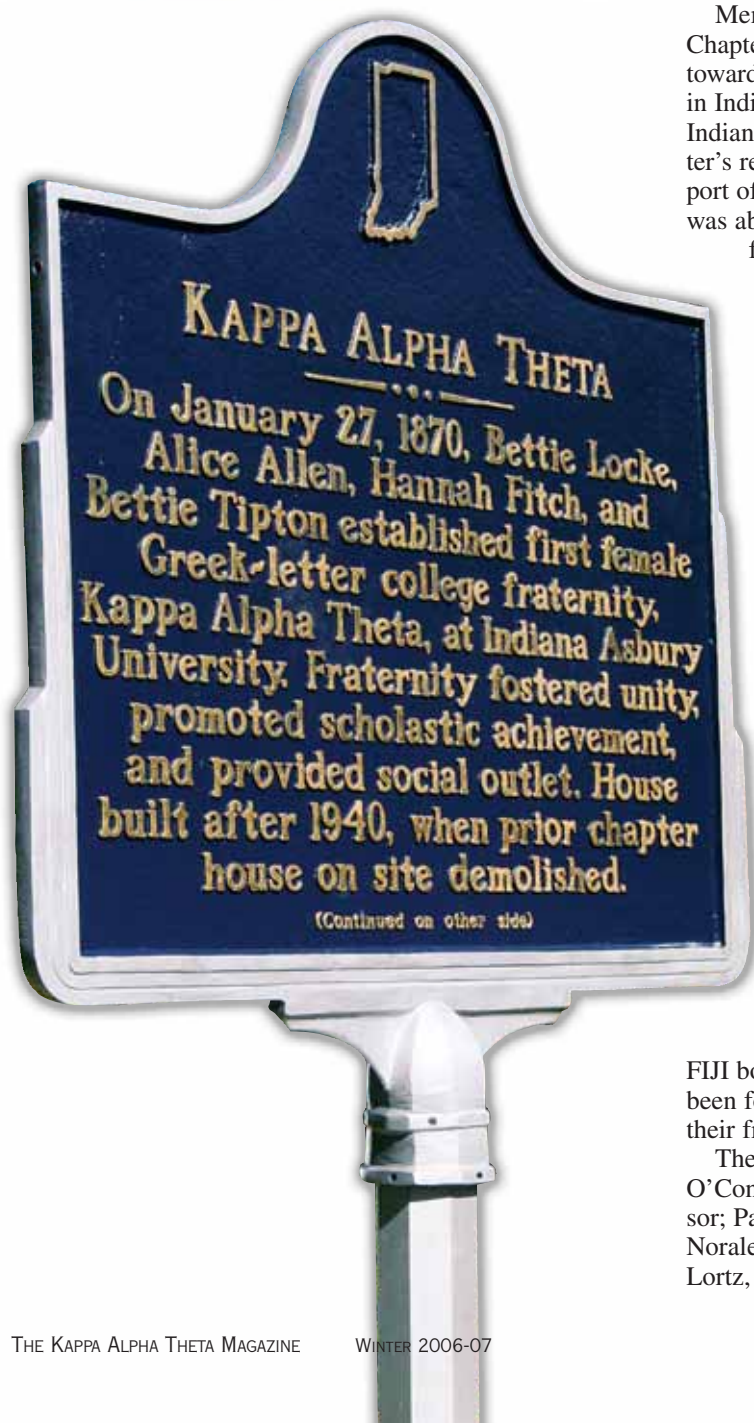
— Kim Linin
ΔH/Kansas State

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MARKING A PLACE IN INDIANA HISTORY

THETA'S FOUNDING COMMEMORATED
WITH AN HISTORICAL MARKER
AT ALPHA CHAPTER

By Rachel Walsh, A/DePauw



On October 7, the Alpha Chapter unveiled a historical marker from the Indiana Historical Bureau with a brunch and dedication ceremony during Old Gold Weekend, DePauw's alumni reunion event. Current chapter members, joined by alumnae; representatives from the University, the Fraternity, National Panhellenic, and the Indiana Historical Bureau; and Thetas from the Gamma Chapter at Butler gathered on the front lawn.

The unveiling of the marker was the culmination of much hard work that began in the spring of 2005. Seeking a way to formally commemorate Kappa Alpha Theta's founding in 1870 at Indiana Asbury, now DePauw, Leslie Rasp, Alpha Chapter member and soon-to-be graduate, did some research on acquiring a historical marker from the Indiana Historical Bureau. The Bureau's marker program began in 1936; currently, there are 450 markers across the state of Indiana.

Members of the Alpha Chapter, working with the Alpha Chapter Facility Corporation Board, completed the first step toward recognizing the facility as an important historical site in Indiana: the application to receive a marker from the Indiana Historical Bureau. After months of waiting, the chapter's request for the marker was approved. Through the support of the Facility Corporation Board's funding, the marker was able to be delivered, installed, and dedicated in a timely fashion. One side of the marker, titled "Kappa Alpha Theta," reads:

"On January 27, 1870, Bettie Locke, Alice Allen, Hannah Fitch, and Bettie Tipton established first female Greek-letter college fraternity, Kappa Alpha Theta, at Indiana Asbury University. Fraternity fostered unity, promoted scholastic achievement, and provided social outlet. House built after 1940, when prior chapter house on site demolished."

The second side continues:

"Indiana Asbury University founded 1837. Locke and Allen were two of first women enrolled on limited basis 1867. Women were opposed and ostracized by many male students, faculty, citizens of town, and students at local female seminary. Based on success of these early women, university allowed women to take classes 'on the same terms as' men 1871."

The day of the dedication began with the traditional Old Gold Weekend brunch at the Alpha facility. The departure from tradition occurred after the brunch had concluded and people began to gather around the marker, which was concealed by a purple cover provided by the Historical Bureau.

Antonia Miller, vice-president finance and chairman of the committee responsible for planning the marker dedication, officiated the ceremony. The president of DePauw University, Robert G.

Bottoms, was the first to speak. He joked about the FIJI boys not being present because he had heard if it had not been for them rejecting Bettie Locke as a full member of their fraternity, we would not all be standing there.

The audience then heard a few words from Cinda O'Connor, Alpha's area National Panhellenic Council advisor; Pamela Bennett from the Indiana Historical Bureau, Noraleen A. Young, Kappa Alpha Theta staff archivist; Becky Lortz, the chapter's facility board president; Nina Budd, the



The Alpha facility, built in 1940, has been “home” to more than 1,960 Thetas.

chapter’s advisory board chairman; and Emily Waterman, the Alpha Chapter president. The ceremony concluded with the unveiling of the marker and the singing of *Remember*, one of the chapter’s favorite Theta songs.

“The brunch was the perfect way to celebrate and to thank those who put so much hard work into bringing the historical marker to the Alpha Chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta,” said chapter member Kathryn Davis. “It was so great to see so many people come out for the ceremony, especially the alumnae and members from other chapters of Kappa Alpha Theta.”

Throughout the ceremony, the importance of the historical marker to more than just Kappa Alpha Theta was not lost on the speakers and audience. Karyn Keenan, another chapter member remarked “...what our four founders did [by creating Kappa Alpha Theta] laid the pathway for women both at DePauw and for all future generations of Theta.”

Chapter member Kari Kieper added, “The ceremony and marker serve as a great reminder of the struggles many women had to overcome just to obtain an equal education and equal opportunity. Bettie Locke and her partners dealt with such adversity everyday, and I am thankful that they stood up for themselves and women everywhere.”

Following the ceremony, warm cider and cookies, both specialties from the Alpha Chapter kitchen, were served on the front porch. Chapter members and guests mingled while admiring the new addition to the chapter’s front lawn. House Director Myrna Green was already anticipating springtime, when an assortment of pansies can be planted surrounding the marker. In the weeks following the marker’s installation, many cars and pedestrians alike were seen slowing down to take note of the new addition to the Theta house’s property. The marker is truly something of which each Theta around the world can feel proud. ♦

Additional information . . .

For more information about the Indiana Historical Bureau’s marker program, visit <http://www.statelib.lib.in.us/www/ihb/markers/index.html>.

For more information about the Kappa Alpha Theta marker, including annotated text for the marker and additional photographs, visit: <http://www.statelib.lib.in.us/www/ihb/markers/numbered/6720061.html>.

Do you have an account on a social networking website such as MySpace, Facebook, or Friendster? If so, you aren't alone; in fact, you are in great company. In September, Internet World Statistics reported that more than 1.08 billion people used the internet. Of these people, Wikipedia reports that more than 550,000,000 have accounts with one of the 100 most notable social networking sites, and these numbers are growing exponentially every day. Americans between the ages of 18 and 24, the most common demographic, are on a networking site an average 17 minutes per day; that is over 100 hours per year. These numbers are a bit daunting, especially considering that less than 20 years ago, such technology simply did not exist in our everyday life.

How did this evolution occur? The answer, quickly. When Classmates.com launched in 1995, its intention was to reconnect alumnae with fellow classmates. The next major milestone came in early 2004 when a group of Harvard University students introduced Facebook, an online alternative to the popular freshman-photo facebook which many schools produced each year. And in 2005, MySpace arrived and offered an interactive, user-submitted network of blogs, profiles, groups, photos, MP3s, videos, and an internal e-mail system. Currently, MySpace is the world's fourth most popular English-speaking website. *If you build it, they will come* became the philosophy, and since 2005 more than 300 social networking sites have hit cyberspace.

But what is more important than the technology behind social networking is actually the "culture" of these social networks. These cultures are unique and complex. Users competing to get as many friends as possible, tagging each other, "pokes," creating groups, (actual example: "Bettie Locke is my homegirl"), seeing "who is talking to whom" via the comments on their page, and gaining insight into the personal relationships of multiple users void of actual interaction. It is all so fascinating. Equally fascinating is the fact that behaviors that take place "behind the curtain of the keyboard" are often very different than the behaviors that take place face-to-face.

Social networking sites enable and

A Cultural Revolution

By Emily Whalen, X/Syracuse

facebook

home search browse invite help logout

Jane's Profile

DePauw

No photo

[View More Photos of Me \(23\)](#)
[Edit My Profile](#)
[Create a Profile Badge](#)

Status

Keep your friends updated on your current status

▼ Theta

42 friends at Theta [See All](#)

Alpha/DePauw Theta

Sex: F

Birthday: January 27, 1986

Hometown: Greencastle, IN

Mini-Feed

▼ Information

[Contact Info](#) [\[edit\]](#)
Email: JDoe@kappaalphatheta.org
Address: 123 Oak Street
Fletcher, NC 28732-9499

[Personal Info](#) [\[edit\]](#)
Favorite Music: [Homage to Theta - Fraternity - Theta Grace - Ideals of Gold - Chain Chant](#)
Favorite Movies: [KAΘ Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow](#)
Favorite Books: [60 Years in KAΘ](#)
Favorite Quotes: ["The finest and most rewarding membership experience" - "Theta for a Lifetime"](#)

empower us to meet and network with people and groups across the campus, city, state, country, and beyond. But with this network comes an audience of strangers. There is a perception among some online network users (those who use Facebook in particular), that they are enjoying an exclusive arena of 18-ish-year-olds and that "grown-ups" should not be in their "space." For this reason, the available security settings are often not used. Without restrictions, personal information such as city of residence, place of employment, age, cell phone number, details about where a person was last weekend or may be going next weekend becomes available to virtually anyone. Perhaps users feel a false sense of protection failing to protect personal information because they are network-

ing from the comfort of their Theta facility or dorm room and not out there in the world. But a lack of understanding can have negative consequences. Fraternity vice-president education Katie Busby, PhD, Epsilon Zeta/ Mississippi, who serves as the director of student affairs assessment and planning for the University of Alabama commented, "One of my biggest fears about online networks is the groups that are not positive. These may be as seemingly benign as 'I can't stand XYZ television show' to something much more sinister that can be perceived as hate. As an educator, these groups concern me. Sometimes the voice of reason or common sense may not get heard and group-think takes over in this network."

So how is Greek life utilizing this

"When I think of sites like Facebook, MySpace, etc., I liken it to standing before an audience in an auditorium. The room is filled with friends, sorority sisters, students, prospective new members, professors and administrators, prospective employers, parents and strangers. Your presentation influences how the audience will think of you, your family, your friends and your sorority to name a few.

The same is true when you use these sites, except your audience is tens of thousands."

— Debbie Allen, ΔΘ/Florida, Fraternity VP Public Relations

powerful tool of communication? Answer, cautiously. With the advent of social networking sites, the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) and its member groups will have to examine the long-term effects and consider implementing new guidelines regarding use. For instance, in an effort to maintain objectivity in potential new members (PNMs), Greek women are not allowed to contact PNMs outside the Panhellenic recruitment guidelines. Conversely, PNMs may wander

through the virtual version of her campus from her own dorm room, so that by the time recruitment rolls around, individuals may have already chosen a preferred group based entirely on the virtual version of that organization.

On the other hand, social networking is an opportunity for Theta generations to interact. Collegians and alumnae alike enjoy their interactions and long to get to know each other on a more personal level. It is possible to use social networking as the "activity"

that brings the groups together.

Ultimately, online social networks are like any other tool. Used in a positive way, they can benefit all those involved; abused and misused, they can cause a great deal of harm. It is certain, though, that this technology will continue to evolve and influence many aspects of our lives, in addition to the social aspect.

Contributions by Katie Busby, Debbie Allen, and Jenna Ghidelli

Networking sites have evolved to serve other practical applications in addition to the social aspect.

Political Lobbying

Phil Noble, founder of PoliticsOnline, a South Carolina-based company that tracks the use of the Internet in politics said, "Facebook and MySpace are where the young folks are hanging out, and any smart politician will be where the young folks are to talk to them and get them involved. It was the same thing 30 years ago at the student center and the same thing 40 years ago at the malt shop." Before the recent election, Facebook unveiled a new feature allowing users to list in their profiles political candidates they support. The site then computed political preference of its users and posted the results for all to see, as if it were a legitimate poll of registered voters (which, of course, it wasn't). Political analysts feel that social networking sites will become a crucial tool in future campaigns.

Crime Investigation

All levels of crime investigation have been affected by social networking sites. From the campus police who are able to identify student-perpetrators, as was the case at Penn State University, when students who illegally rushed the field after a football game created a Facebook page titled "I rushed the field after the OSU game and lived" to the far more serious story of 16-year-old Katherine Lester. Lester secretly traveled to the Middle East to visit a West Bank man she met on MySpace. When she went missing, her parents contacted the police, who in turn contacted the FBI, and her MySpace account was a source of their investigation. They were able to locate conversations which revealed her intentions to go abroad, and Lester was located in Amman,

Jordan. Within weeks she and her parents appeared on *Good Morning, America*. In tears, the teenager spoke of her love and intent to marry her MySpace boyfriend, whom she had still never met. In this case of crime investigation, the availability of social networking sites aided police in solving a case; on the other hand, it may have been the advent of such sites that led to the incident to begin with.

Career Recruitment

Business is also finding a home on social networking sites. Companies surf these sites on the hunt for prospective hires, while individuals market their skills and post their résumés for all to see. One such individual, an aspiring musician in LA named Nathan Thomas, uploaded sound bytes of original music to his MySpace profile. When a popular LA hot spot, Rainbow Bar and Grill, stumbled onto his profile and listened to his music, management offered him a Friday night gig. Who knows, we may see a lot more of this artist.

Of course, there is another side to the use of social networking sites for professional research. *The Chicago Tribune's* RedEye printed an article concerning MySpace and an individual's search for employment. It was argued that young college graduates compromise their chances of starting careers because of the content they post in their profiles. An employer may choose not to hire an individual who is otherwise qualified because he or she posts unsatisfactory photos and/or information online. Additionally, the prospective employer can obtain information about applicants' race, gender, and sexuality—details that are legally prohibited from being factored into hiring decisions. ♦

In Their Own Words

Q&A With Two Thetas of Note

Sandi Point Kemmish, API/South Dakota, serves as president of the Association of Junior Leagues International; her two-year term began in June. In addition, she is employed as program officer for the Lincoln Financial Group Foundation in Fort Wayne, Indiana, managing the corporation's charitable giving.



Q You are an experienced volunteer, devoting your time to a number of community organizations as well as the Junior League. What is the value of volunteering?

A Volunteering is the fabric of American life. Many nonprofit organizations provide critical services, cultural opportunities, and much more and add tremendous value to our communities.

These organizations could not fulfill their missions without the thousands of volunteer hours that support their programs. The financial value of volunteering to the nonprofit organizations is calculated at more than \$18 an hour; however, the personal rewards from volunteering are invaluable. There is nothing that can compare with giving of your time and self to improve the life of someone who is less fortunate or to improve the community in which you live. Volunteering gives me a "high," knowing that I have made a difference.

Q What is the professional accomplishment of which you're proudest?

A Four years ago, the value of volunteer leadership experience and my Junior League training became so much more apparent to me. Through a Junior League project that I had been a part of developing and led for three years, the League collaborated with representatives from diverse community organizations to regrant nearly \$400,000 to grass-roots organizations. I was able to turn this experience and my Junior League training into a new career at Lincoln Financial Group Foundation.

Q What profession other than your own would you like to attempt?

A Currently, I am enjoying my second career. After teaching middle and high school for about 10 years and moving several times, I had retired from teaching and devoted myself to volunteering. My Junior League experiences and leadership training led me to my current career in managing the Lincoln Financial Group

Foundation. It's a perfect opportunity to utilize my nonprofit experience and Junior League training to impact community organizations.

Q Who are your real-life heroes?

A For the past ten years, I have been involved with the Association of Junior Leagues International, serving on the board of directors and nominating committee. Throughout these years, I have learned so much from the women

who serve as presidents of the Junior Leagues in 293 communities and four countries. They give unselfishly of themselves to promote volunteering, develop women's leadership, and improve their communities. They balance careers, family, and volunteer leadership experiences. They are definitely my "sheroes"!

Q What do you value in your friends?

A I value friends who give of themselves to help others and to improve the community where they live. The friends I enjoy are those with whom you can share a walk, a puzzle, or a dinner. Friends need to be there for one another in happy times and difficult times.

Q What sound do you love?

A I love the sound of babies and children laughing. From the first smiles and giggles to the squealing and laughter of children playing and enjoying life – they are beautiful sounds of life that should be celebrated.

Q What sound do you hate?

A Conversely, I hate the sound of babies and children crying – it can be so desperate – hunger, pain, and fear. It is such a sad sound.

Q What fictional character do you most identify with?

A While it's difficult to see yourself as a fictional character, I think the "Little Engine that Could" best describes my life. More than 25 years ago, I was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, but I was not going to let that stop me from achieving my goals. As I balanced my career, my family, and my volunteer work, I decided to prove to myself that I could accomplish one more enormous personal goal – run the Boston Marathon. I completed the marathon in just over 6 hours, and throughout the training I talked to myself, "I think I can, I think I can." Positive self-talk is a great motivator.

Q What is your favorite Theta memory?

A My favorite Theta memory was "flying our kites" after we were initiated. It was a chilly South Dakota day with plenty of wind. The park across the street from the house was a perfect venue for the kite-flying activity. It was an annual tradition, but even more than that, it was a celebration of achievement and sisterhood.

Lissa Wood, ΔΖ/Emory, is a culinary producer at the Food Network. She writes scripts and cooking tips, researches ingredients, and edits recipes for a variety of shows. Wood has a degree from the Institute of Culinary Education in New York City.

Q What is the best thing about your job?

A I enjoy the variety of shows and chefs that I get to work with. Also, it is fun being surrounded by good recipes since I love to cook at home.

Q What is the worst thing?

A There is always so much great food around – it's hard to resist it!

Q What is the professional accomplishment of which you're proudest?

A Determining and accomplishing a career change so that I could turn my passion for food and cooking into a career.

Q What food do you love?

A Too many to name.... I love so many different cuisines. Unfortunately, I have a sweet tooth that kills me.

Q What food do you hate?

A I don't care for salmon or mayonnaise.

Q What profession other than yours would you like to attempt?

A Interior design.

Q What is your most treasured possession?

A A watch that my boyfriend gave me because it makes me think of him every time I look at it.

Q What words or phrases do you probably overuse?

A The word *like* – I am trying to kick the habit.

Q Who is your favorite writer?

A Ruth Reichl is entertaining; I am currently reading her newest book, *Garlic and Sapphires*.

Q Who are your heroes?

A Michael Phelps, Jenny Thompson, and Michelle Kwan

Q What do you value in your friends?

A Loyalty and reliability.

Q You grew up in Virginia, attended college in Atlanta, and now live in New York City. How is the northern part of the US different from the southern part of the country?

A The Northeast and the South are entirely different cultures. The Northeast is much faster paced than the South, and there is a greater emphasis on work. The South is more relaxed, and I find it friendlier. They both definitely have their pros and cons.

Q What is your favorite Theta memory?

A All of the wonderful women whom I have met through Theta experiences – they will always be great friends. ♦

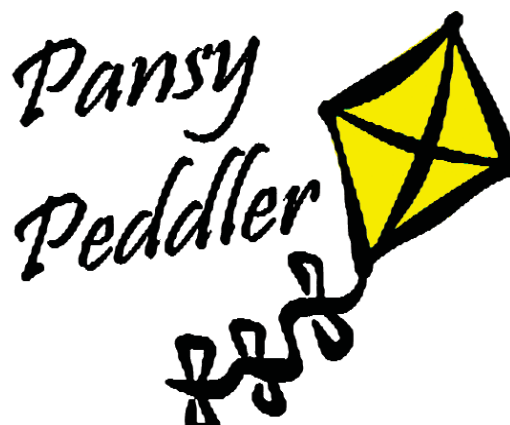


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OUT OF THIS WORLD

By Jan Schmitz Mathew, Δ/llinois

WHEN SPACE SHUTTLE ASTRONAUTS BLAST UP, SENIOR ENGINEER REBECCA MASTERSON WONG, ZM/MIT, BUCKLES DOWN—MONITORING BEHIND-THE-SCENES INTRICACIES OF MANNED MISSIONS.

Chances are good that Rebecca Masterson Wong's mother was glued to the television set on Saturday, September 9, 2006, at 11:15 EDT. At that moment, the space shuttle *Atlantis* thundered into orbit from the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla., after a two-week delay. The mission—officially dubbed *STS-115 Atlantis*—was charged with one of the most challenging tasks in space history: resuming construction of the International Space Station for the first time since the 2003 Columbia disaster.

While Masterson Wong, a senior engineer for Charles Stark Draper

Laboratory in Cambridge, Mass., had traveled to the Johnson Space Flight Center near Houston for the mission, she didn't arrive until one day after the launch. And, when she did, she didn't "land" where the TV cameras could find her.

"Mom always expects to see me on television, even though I tell her that what I do isn't what makes the national news," says Masterson Wong, Zeta Mu/MIT, referring to familiar images of flight directors glued to computer screens and speaking into headsets. "I'm part of the guidance navigation control team, and I sit in a separate Mission Evaluation Room. I have a

headset, but I can only speak to the guidance navigation control director—not the astronauts. I have access to data from the shuttle and, if I've done my job well, my shifts are totally boring!"

Which, translated, means everything works exactly as many months of computer simulations and pre-mission analyses predicted. As senior engineer, Masterson Wong performs flight control design and certification analysis for space shuttle/International Space Station mated operations, including robotics, and also provides support during shuttle missions to the International Space Station. Her role is intricate and essential, focusing on controlling the vibrations and rotation of the shuttle, which uses its robotic arm to pass pieces of equipment to the International Space Station. The September 9 *Atlantis* mission to the Space Station, for example, centered on delivery and installation of a \$372 million, 45-foot, 17.5-ton truss that held electricity-generating solar panels. Masterson Wong was a key part of the team that moved the massive truss from the *Atlantis* space shuttle to the International Space Station via a robotic arm.

This feat was in contrast to earlier missions that delivered much smaller pieces, Masterson Wong explains. "The shuttle's original control system wasn't designed to handle such large structures, so we've had to tweak things accordingly," she says. "We also try to plan for every possible contingency."

ENGINEER'S LOG

Excerpts from Masterson Wong's STS-115/12A *Atlantis* Flight Support Log, recorded throughout her three-day shift at the Johnson Space Flight Center, document this detailed ground-to-space interaction:

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2006

4:30 pm—Stopped by Draper's off-site office to pick up the paperwork required for my Mission Evaluation Room (MER) badge. A co-worker is there, so we discuss the mission a bit. There's a brief memorandum that mentions the International Space Station's (ISS) robotic arm, but after decoding it, we decide it's post-truss installation

and shouldn't affect us. It's good to get the head's up, though, in case we need to be concerned with this later. The crew is asleep at this point, so there's very little activity in the MER.

6:30 pm—Back to the motel and then out for dinner. Will get to bed early tonight to be ready for my first console shift tomorrow morning.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2006

7 am—Arrive at MER for P3/P4 ("port," or truss that was installed on the ISS during the mission) grapple, unberth, and handoff support.

8:51 am—SRMS (shuttle remote manipulator system, or the robotic arm attached to the shuttle) is in motion; P3/P4 clears rail of payload bay. At this point, we are monitoring the shuttle's progress, rather than controlling it.

9:04 am—P3/P4 in low-hover position on the SRMS.

9:15 am—P3/P4 in auto sequence start position on SRMS

9:32 am—P3/P4 in handoff position on SRMS!

9:51 am—SSRMS (the robotic arm attached to the Space Station) in hand-off position and ready to grapple P3/P4 truss for handoff.

10:10 am—SSRMS grapple; SRMS ungrapple. P3/P4 is now in handoff position on SSRMS and will be "parked" there overnight for thermal conditioning. We're heading off control until this evening.

3:15 pm—Crew goes to sleep. I wrap up some meetings around this time, too.

5 pm—I head off to sleep for a few hours.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2006

12 am—Back on console at MER. Crew has been awake since 11:15. The P3/P4 truss has been sitting on the SSRMS during crew sleep for thermal conditioning and will be installed on the ISS in the next few hours. Mated stack (refers to the shuttle and the ISS, which are attached at this point) is

under Station control. Shuttle control is back-up for these upcoming operations.

1:26 am—P3/P4 at Intermediate position on SSRMS.

1:43 am—P3/P4 at Pre-Install position on SSRMS.

1:48 am—Digital AutoPilot (DAP) edits to shuttle are complete. Crew updates DAP parameters based on our design. We verify edits here on the ground.

2:27 am—All three ready-to-latch indicators are go. P3/P4 is in final position for latching to Station. The move from pre-install to ready-to-latch position was done under manual arm control by the crew.

2:40 am—First-stage capture complete. SSRMS is now limp.

3:35 am—P3/P4 installed. Off-console. Time to get more sleep!

"It was crazy to watch that huge, 17.5-ton truss being maneuvered out on the end of a robotic arm," recalls Masterson Wong of the *Atlantis* mission.

"All of my graduate school work focused on next-generation missions, or computer simulations of scenarios twenty years down the road," she adds, "and this job is the first opportunity I've had to work on live space programs.

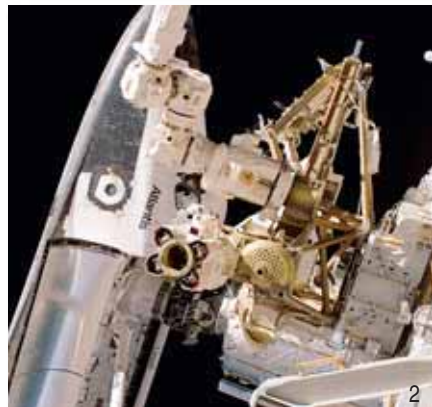
"It's my dream come true."

AN EARLY LAUNCH

Masterson Wong's visions of space began with stars in her eyes—literally. As a young girl, she recalls jaunts with her father, Robert, a mechanical engineer, to the Atlantic Ocean shore. There, with an amateur telescope in tow, the two stargazed and imagined galaxies far from their Fall River, Mass., home. "My parents were extremely supportive and never gave me the idea that I couldn't 'do' engineering," she says of her decision to earn her bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering. She graduated in 1997 from MIT, where she also earned her master of science and PhD



1



2



3



4

- 1 The Space Shuttle *Atlantis*, backdropped by a colorful Earth.
- 2 *Atlantis* was docked with the International Space Station for several days.
- 3 The new truss and robotic arm as *Atlantis* is docked with the orbital outpost.
- 4 The landing gear's touch-down successfully concludes the nearly 12-day mission.

degrees. Masterson Wong started in her current position with Charles Stark Draper Laboratory in August 2005.

"Even though the path for women in engineering was blazed about twenty years ago, it's still definitely a male-dominated field," she says. "Numbers of men and women in undergraduate engineering classes at MIT were fairly even but, by the PhD level, the numbers of women really dwindled. At work, I'm the only 'technical' woman in my wing of the building."

The designation is in sharp contrast to the sisters who surround Masterson Wong in her volunteer role as finance district director for Theta chapters in District III (northeastern United States and Quebec). In this capacity, she oversees financial operations of the district's 10 college chapters, reviewing budgets and monthly reports and providing guidance to chapter officers, as well as leading training sessions at conferences and making chapter visits when necessary. On average, Masterson Wong devotes about 10-15 hours a week to Theta "business."

"I got so much out of my Theta experience as an undergraduate," she recalls. "I learned how to delegate and to lead a team—skills I never expected to gain."

"Volunteering in an advisory role is also a way for me to stay plugged into the academic environment, which is a

realm I really enjoy. Finance also comes naturally to me, because you have to be very meticulous, just like engineering."

THE NEWEST MISSION

In December, Masterson Wong and her husband, Gordon, who is director of business systems for a computer software company, relished a successful mission of their own—parenthood. Prior to her six-month maternity leave, Masterson Wong was able to complete pre-flight work for shuttle launches scheduled for December 14 and February 22, 2007. She'll also telecommute with colleagues in Charles Stark Draper Laboratory's Houston office from home as needed.

And although her pace may vary a bit, she has every intention of staying in the "space race."

"The space program tends to go with the politics of the time," she says, "so it's very hard to say where it will be twenty years from now." For instance, projects involving NASA's Hubble Space Telescope recently have been put on the back burner in favor of manned space flights.

"Personally, I'd like to see the space program go the route of exploration—looking for other solar systems and places that might have life," adds Masterson Wong. "From a scientific standpoint, you learn so much more through unmanned missions, because you can travel and see much farther out in space."

"I'd like to be on a team that gathers more information on the nature of who we are, and where we came from."



Becky Masterson Wong, ZM/MIT, and her husband, Gordon.

AT A GLANCE: THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

- The September 2006 *Atlantis* mission delivered electricity-generating solar panels to the International Space Station (ISS)—panels that will supply a quarter of the space station's power when the outpost is completed by 2010.
- The ISS, a manned research space facility currently being assembled in orbit around the Earth, is a joint project among five space agencies: the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA, United States), the Russian Federal Space Agency (RKA, Russian Federation), the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA, Japan), the Canadian Space Agency (CSA, Canada), and the European Space Agency (ESA, Europe). In addition to the US space shuttles, the ISS also is serviced by Russia's Soyuz spacecraft units.
- The Space Station orbits the Earth at an altitude of approximately 220 miles—a distance usually termed "low Earth orbit"—and circles Earth in a period of about 92 minutes.
- Thanks to the ISS, there has been a constant human presence in space since November 2, 2000, when the first permanent crew came on board. At present, the station has a capacity for a three-person crew and, prior to ESA astronaut Thomas Reiter joining the crew in July 2006, all permanent crew members have come from the Russian or United States space programs. The ISS also has been visited by astronauts from twelve countries and was the destination of the first four space tourists.
- A crew of six is expected to be on board in 2009, after the Shuttle's next 12 construction flights.

Coming in
the Spring
2007 issue



Member Recruitment Guide *How to write & submit a letter of reference*



Focus on the Foundation *As the KAΘ Theta Foundation nears its 50th birthday, its mission continues to expand*



Theta authors, reunions, & notables



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For questions or more information, contact Cindy Thoennes, coordinator of programs, cthoennes@kappaalphatheta.org.

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SISTERHOOD THRIVES IN CHANGING TIMES

K/KANSAS CELEBRATES
125TH ANNIVERSARY!

Joanne Beal Feist, who lived in the Kappa Chapter facility at the University of Kansas in the mid-1950s, recalled weekly formal dinners and curfews. Marie McMorris remembered decorating a straw boater with a “Beat Iowa State” hatband and presenting it to her dad at Kappa Chapter’s Fathers’ Weekend in 1965. Teresa Myers Dillon reminisced about the 1970s, when Theta Buffet, an annual November formal, was held in the Kappa facility.

The times have changed, but the sisterhood hasn’t.

In July, Dillon, McMorris, Feist, and more than 500 other women journeyed back to the University of Kansas to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Kappa Chapter. The three-day event included a luncheon, as well as numerous get-togethers at houses and restaurants in Lawrence and Kansas City. “We found ourselves comparing stories of how things were through the years,” said Debbie Vignatelli Knozem, reunion cochairman.

Founded in 1881, the Kappa Chapter originally had 12 members. Their university experiences were similar to those of Thetas on other campuses in the early years of the Fraternity: women students were in the minority, and many of the male students and professors questioned whether they deserved a higher education.

The chapter thrived, serving as a support system and a source of strength to her members, and the first facility was built in 1912. Although it was later enlarged, the chapter outgrew it and moved to its current home in 1937. Kappa counts more than 3,000 Thetas as initiated members, including former US Senator Nancy Landon Kassebaum-Baker. “We were one of the first women’s fraternities on campus,” Debbie Boulware O’Neal, reunion cochairman, pointed out, “and we’ve always taken a lot of pride in being one of the leaders on campus.”

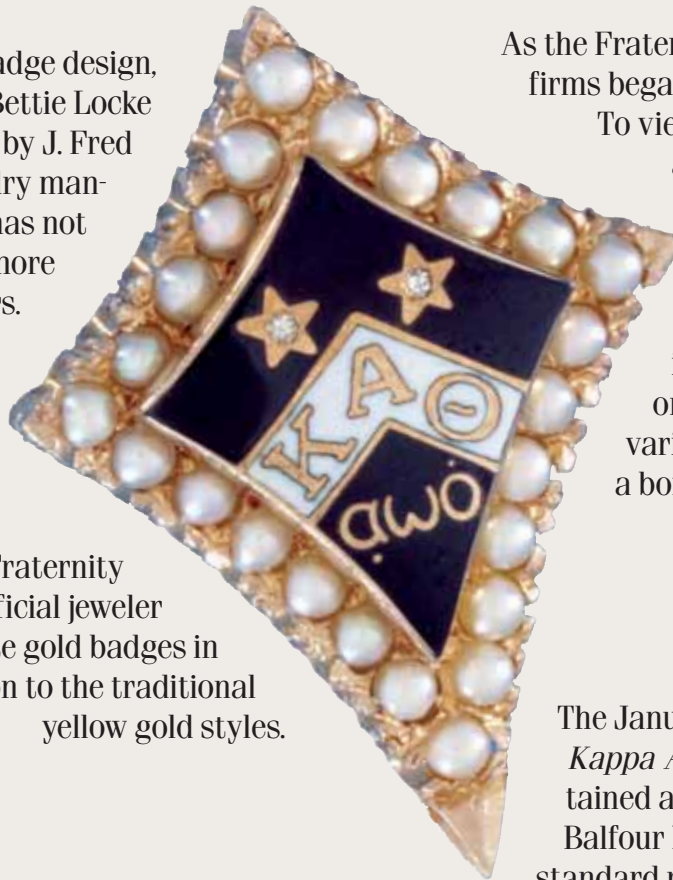
“It’s a wonderful environment for people who want to live together, study hard, play together, and have a rich college life,” McMorris said. ♦



Badge of Distinction

According to Theta lore, the Fraternity's four founders first wore their badges in public—to an Asbury College chapel service—on Monday, March 14, 1870.

The basic badge design, conceived by Bettie Locke and refined by J. Fred Newman, a jewelry manufacturer, has not changed in more than 136 years.



In 2000, the Fraternity authorized the official jeweler to produce white gold badges in addition to the traditional yellow gold styles.

As the Fraternity grew, more jewelry firms began making Theta badges. To vie for business, these firms altered slightly the size and some style elements. At the 1907 Convention, the concept of a standardized badge was introduced and adopted. The only permitted variation was the addition of a border of pearls or diamonds.

The January 1920 issue of *The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine* contained an advertisement for the Balfour Blue book, "... the standard reference for Kappa Alpha Theta jewelry."

Jeweled badges today may incorporate emeralds, rubies, and sapphires—as well as diamonds and pearls—in the borders.



THREE THETAS AND ... A CHEETAH

Those of us who work on *The Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine* have read lots of “Theta connection” stories. Stories about a Theta who moves to a new neighborhood and makes a new friend who—lo and behold—also turns out to be a Theta. Stories about a Theta who takes a cruise and while chatting with another woman at dinner discovers that they belong to the same college chapter. Stories about a woman waiting in an airport who strikes up a conversation with another woman carrying a pansy tote. Of course, they’re both Thetas.



Lisa giving her “mom,” Vicki Vance Stanton, A/DePauw, love bites on Stanton’s last day in Tanzania, February 1974.

We were starting to believe that we’d heard all the possible variations of the Theta connection story. But that was before this summer, when we got an e-mail relating the story of three Thetas and—yes, you read the headline correctly—an African cheetah.

“I am looking for an article published in the Theta magazine between 1975 and 1977, approximately,” wrote Vicki Vance Stanton, Alpha/DePauw. “The article was written by a Theta who had gone on safari in Tanzania. She wrote about a cheetah that she had encountered at Ngorongoro Crater. My sister and I happened to have raised that cheetah from infancy after her mother was killed by poachers. Lisa, the cheetah, was later released to the wild.”

It’s surprising that we didn’t trip as we hurried to the magazine archives. There, in the Summer 1977 issue, we found a fascinating story by Susan Ward, Tau/Northwestern. She related her adventures as a safari courier with Abercrombie and Kent International, including game-spotting in Kenya, the necessity of speaking passable Swahili, and meeting a semi-tame cheetah named Lisa in Ngorongoro Crater.

Further research via the Internet revealed that the Ngorongoro Crater is the centerpiece of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, which was established in 1959 as a pioneering experiment in multiple land use. The crater, formed by the collapse of an ancient volcano, is a natural sanctuary for thousands of animals and many species of insects and birds.

And a further e-mail from Vicki Stanton related more information about herself; her sister, Valerie Vance-Goff, Beta Delta/Arizona; and Lisa. After graduating from college in 1972 and backpacking through Europe, Stanton decided to visit her sister, who was working as the catering manager at Fort Ikoma Lodge in Tanzania. On a game drive near the fort, a German visitor discovered a frightened three-week-old cheetah near the carcass of her mother. The head and skin of the adult had been removed, indicating she had been shot by poachers. In addition, a brush fire had swept through, and the cheetah cub’s fur had been singed: there was no tuft at the back of her neck, no whiskers, no characteristic white tail tip.

After a few weeks, the cheetah cub, who had been given the same name as the German woman who found her, came into the care of the part-owner/manager of Fort Ikoma. He asked Stanton to take responsibility for caring for Lisa. “Being an animal lover, I jumped at the opportunity. She grew into a beautiful animal. In September 1974, George Frame, a scientist at the Serengeti Research Institute, supervised her release to the wild in the Serengeti. It is documented in his book *Swift and Enduring: Cheetahs and Wild Dogs of the Serengeti* [now out of print].”

In her Theta magazine article, Susan Ward wrote about Lisa as an adult. “Lisa, who now roams free in the crater bottom, quickly made herself known the first morning. I opened the tent flaps wide to sniff the fresh morning air and in bounced Lisa, who delicately picked her way through the tea tray and happily flopped on my recently vacated bed. Before a scream escaped my lips, I sighted her telltale radio collar and subsided into a heap on the floor.”

In his book, George Frame related a similar incident when Lisa wandered into famed anthropologist Mary Leakey’s camp, proceeding to jump on her table and eat her omelet. Like Ward, Leakey wasn’t alarmed because she’d noticed Lisa’s radio collar.

Vicki Stanton’s visa expired in early 1974, and she had to leave Tanzania; Valerie Vance-Goff returned permanently to the United States in 1980. Today both live in Tucson, Ariz. Vance-Goff works in the field of optics, specifically telescopes, and Stanton is an active volunteer for multiple organizations, including Kappa Alpha Theta. The sisters last received news of Lisa was in the late ’70s. In 2002, Stanton took her husband and three sons on safari to Tanzania. They saw only two cheetahs, one in Ngorongoro Crater and one near Olduvai Gorge. “Do you suppose they could be the offspring of Lisa?” Stanton wonders. “I would like to think so.”



A more recent photo of Vicki Vance Stanton, A/DePauw (right) and Valerie Vance-Goff, BΔ/Arizona.

Editor’s notes: Further information about the Ngorongoro Conservation Area may be found at www.ngorongoro-crater-africa.org. Vicki Stanton asked that we include an e-mail address for her and her sister: safari502@comcast.net.

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continued on page 30

Dates represent year of initiation and month and year of death.

ENHANCING THE FRATERNITY SYSTEM

An Alumnae Panhellenic Association (APH) is a community-based organization affiliated with the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC).

Alumnae Panhellenics inform fraternity women of current trends, promote the fraternity system, improve the Panhellenic image, and stimulate a continuing interest in Panhellenic affairs. In 2005, more than \$435,000 was raised and granted in scholarships by APHs to more than 580 women. Alumnae Panhellenics represent an ongoing commitment of women to promote and foster the Greek experience.



Congratulations to the following Thetas serving as president of the Alumnae Panhellenic Association in their community.

• • • • •

Tiffany Thoms Adami, ΓΦ/Texas Tech, Denison/Sherman, Texas

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Katy Phillips Rominger, ΓΧ/Fresno State, Tulare County, Calif.

Lona Davis Voigt, ΒΝ/Florida State, Sarasota, Fla. ♦

SOMETHING'S COOKING IN A THETA'S KITCHEN ...

by Mary Edith Estes Arnold, AM/missouri, Fraternity Archivist

Today's collegians wouldn't expect their grade reports to mention their prowess in the kitchen. But on Bettie Locke's March 30, 1870, term report, someone – perhaps her father, Asbury mathematics professor John Locke – also penned in “She bakes good bread when she has good flour.” Bettie, apparently, was multi-talented. Not only was she a leader with excellent grades (90, 97, 98, 98, 96 on that report card), but she was also a good cook!

When Bettie was learning to bake in the Locke kitchen, recipes were passed down orally from mother to daughter. It wasn't until 1896 that Fannie Farmer created what may have been the first American cookbook with precise measurements.

Two decades later—in 1915—Kappa Alpha Theta Los Angeles alumnae published *California Cookery Old and New* to raise funds for Theta scholars. The charming little book is filled with delicious-sounding recipes for California- and Mexican-style cuisine. The introduction states,

“The proceeds will be used to furnish ‘food’ for the minds of many whose eager ambitions would suffer were it not for the Kappa Alpha Theta Scholarship Fund....”

In 1915, the Fund was supporting 14 young women. In 2006, 176 Thetas received scholarships from the Foundation. No doubt some of these funds were raised by members sharing recipes in cookbooks with titles like *Kites in the Kitchen*, *Kite Kookery*, or

Seasoned With Love. Our continued shared intent to recognize excellence and lend support to

Theta sisters is at the heart of our Theta heritage. The Kappa Alpha Theta Archives welcomes sample copies of Theta cookbooks as we continue to document Fraternity history. ♦



Marie Louise Schroeder Whitney, BO/iowa, a renowned philanthropist and cookbook author, was pictured in *The Lexington Herald Leader* in 1963.



Olive Salad

TO ONE pint of pitted ripe olives, add one stalk of crisp celery, one or two tart apples and one-half teacupful of California walnut meats. Chop all, not too fine, and serve on lettuce leaves with mayonnaise.

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Dates represent year of initiation and month and year of death.



Welcome to
Kappa Alpha
Theta's
newest college
chapter,
Eta Xi,
at Quinnipiac
University in
Hamden, Conn.

QUINNIPIAC
UNIVERSITY

Kites Over Connecticut

Seventy collegians were initiated into the Eta Xi Chapter on Saturday, November 4, with members of the Gamma Zeta Chapter from Connecticut and the Epsilon Tau Chapter from Yale assisting. The next day, former Fraternity President and current NPC Delegate Mary Jane Parker Beach, BN/Florida State, presided over the chapter chartering services. More than 200 Thetas, friends, and family members enjoyed the celebratory brunch immediately following.

At the brunch, based educational leadership consultants Bekah Hazen, ZN/UC Davis, and Erin Tallent, BA/William and Mary, were recognized by Eta Xi for their dedication and extra efforts to ensure a successful experience on the Quinnipiac campus. Ed Kovacs, director of the student center and student leadership development, welcomed the chapter and its members into the university's Greek community. "You are each beginning your journey as members of Kappa Alpha Theta," he said. "As an individual, you have willingly agreed to embrace and defend the purpose of your organization—to support members to learn, grow, and

excel—and her core values—personal excellence, friendship and sisterhood, scholarship, service, and leadership."

Thank you to the following Fraternity officers, other educational leadership consultants, and staff members who served on the installation team: Debbie Bornmann Allen, ΔΘ/Florida, Fraternity vice-president public relations; Kate Hogge Fowler HH/Albertson, public relations district director; Danielle Henry, ZT/Delaware, membership district director; Christina Fabiano, X/Syracuse, administrative district director; Angie Low Molina, ΓΦ/Texas Tech, music coordinator; Betsy Sierk Corridan, BO/Iowa, executive director; Kelley Galbreath Hurst, BI/Colorado, director of chapter services; Jenni Broughton, Γ/Butler, assistant director of chapter services; and educational leadership consultants Jenna Ghidelli, ΓX/Fresno State; Leslie Kreinberg, BT/Denison; and Cassie Smith, EZ/Mississippi.

Congratulations and welcome, Eta Xi!

Above: The installation team and Eta Xi charter members proudly display the charter of Theta's newest chapter.

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